present invention. The deferred debiting may be used in conjunction with the multi-level policing logic.--

On page 23, after line 3, and before the paragraph beginning at line 4, please insert the following new paragraph:

-- As shown in FIG. 9, a field extractor 402 receives packets, provides flow information to generic decision logic 408 and deferred debit policing logic 410, and provides the packet to a packet size calculator 404. The packet size calculator 404 provides output to a packet size buffer 406 and provides the packet to a packet buffer 412. The generic decision logic 408 and the deferred debit policing logic 410, respectively, provide a generic decision result and a policing result to disposition logic 414, which provides a disposition result to the packet buffer 412. The disposition logic 414 also provides the disposition result to the deferred debit policing logic 410, which uses the disposition result and the packet size information for deferred debiting. --

In the Claims:

Please add the following new claims 33-46:

33.   The packet switching controller of claim 1, the packet switching controller further comprising a debiting element, wherein at least one bandwidth contract has an associated token bucket to represent available bandwidth under said bandwidth contract, and the debiting element determines, using the policing results, whether or not to debit the associated token bucket.

34.   The packet switching controller of claim 3, the packet switching controller further comprising a debiting element, wherein at least one bandwidth contract has an associated token bucket to represent available bandwidth under said bandwidth contract, and the debiting element defers debiting the associated token bucket with the packet size until the disposition engine provides the disposition decision to the debiting